LETTERS@METRO.US

IS YOGA A CRAZE — OR CULT? {page 09}

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BOSTON
Tuesday, January 08, 2013

Arson suspected in West Roxbury auto shop fires

- Eight cars burned at popular family-owned vehicle repair shop on VFW Parkway
- Torched cars did not belong to customers and were not visible from roadway {page 04}

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

ONEin3. Recruiting

▶ One in three Boston residents are between the ages of 20 and 34. Learn how you can help make the Hub more happening for young people. {page 02}

travel

When it comes to golf, Myrtle Beach is Mystical

- Three South Carolina courses have redefined the possibilities of 18 holes {page 12}

sports

History on side of Patriots ... kinda, sorta

- Mixed bag for Belichick when seeing opponent twice in one season {page 13}

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By the numbers

4,753

The MBTA Transit Police Department announced yesterday that its officers issued 4,753 fare evasion citations throughout the transit system in 2012. "We will continue our enforcement efforts," a spokesman said in a statement. METRO

Today's local tweet

"There's rusted cars/daily delays/station weirdos/faregate probs/mystery funk/old technology. This is MY #MBTA & I love it."

@DJIMPACT1 HAS NOTHING BUT LOVE FOR THE T.

ONEin3: Brainstorming about bettering Boston

Hub's young demographic working to improve city ONEin3 advisory council opens up to new members It's your chance to make a difference

A board of ambitious young Bostonians is looking to recruit some fresh new faces to help make the Hub a more happening place for 20- and 30-somethings.

Last week the ONEin3 Boston Mayor's Advisory Council started accepting applications for new members. Since then, hundreds have reached out to the organization, all vying for a spot on the 24-member board.

Mayor Thomas Menino started the program in 2004 to advise him on policy and programming. Since then it's yielded a neighborhood tour, housing guides, networking events, park cleanups and wiffle ball tournaments, to name a few.

The council is made up of Boston residents between the ages of 20 and 34, because according to city officials, more than one-third of the city's population is made up of that demographic — hence "one in three."

"We're looking to build a council that is very representative of the diverse mix in Boston," said ONEin3 Manager Chloe Ryan, 25, a former council member.

That means young entrepreneurs, new and lifelong Bostonians, and new parents are all welcome on the council.

"The city is home to young adults from all different walks of life. I'd say overall we are looking for people who are engaged with the city, excited to be here and can think of ways to make improvements," she said.

Former New Yorker and a 2012 ONEin3er Lily Lynch now calls Boston her home, which is why she decided to do some housekeeping.

"It's important to make the city a home for that younger demographic, and more than just a stepping stone," said Lynch, 28.

Boston native Anthony Barrows, 34, spent two years chipping away on ONEin3 projects, often over food and drinks with other members.

"I developed awesome friendships and professional connections," he said. "Being a part of a group of energetic people committed to bettering the city was a real privilege in and of itself, and the experiences and networks that I've developed were a bonus."

Morgan Rousseau
morgan.rousseau@metro.us

"Our ONEin3 population is key to Boston's economic and social vitality. By seeking to better understand and serve this important population's needs through the ONEin3 program, we deepen their connection and commitment to the City of Boston."
MAYOR THOMAS MENINO

ONEin3 manager Chloe Ryan, shown in Downtown Crossing, said the group is looking for a diverse collection of individuals.

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

"It's important to make the city a home for that younger demographic, and more than just a stepping stone."
LYNCH

By the numbers

1 in 3
Boston residents is a member of the 20- to 34-year-old age group. Boston has the largest concentration of 20- to 34-year-olds of any major city in the country.

32%
Of Boston's 20- to 34-year-old population are currently enrolled in school

43%
Of Boston's 20- to 34-year olds have a bachelor's degree or higher

19.6%
Of 20- to 34-year-olds live in the Allston/Brighton neighborhood

70%
Of Boston's 20- to 34-year-olds are employed, with 66 percent of people in this age group working within the city

Sudbury man convicted on terrorism charges given award by Boston church

A Massachusetts man who was convicted last year on terrorism charges was given an award Sunday from a Boston community church, the MetroWest Daily News reported yesterday.

The Community Church of Boston granted former Sudbury resident Tarek Mehanna the 36th annual Sacco-Vanzetti Memorial Award for Contributions to Social Justice for what the church considered to be his struggle as a seeker of justice.

According to the report, Mehanna's father, mother, brother and sister-in-law accepted the award on his behalf after discussions on oppression in America.

Mehanna

Mehanna is serving a 17-year sentence for various terrorism-related charges after federal prosecutors said he traveled to Yemen to get terrorist training in order to fight U.S. soldiers in Iraq. He is also accused of translating texts for terror groups.

Church officials said the award has been given since 1976 "to outstanding activists in the peoples' struggles."

Throughout his trial, Mehanna's supporters said his actions were an expression of his views, and his lawyers argued that his expressions in opposition to the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq were protected free speech. METRO/MR

News in brief

New Dreamliner plane catches fire at Logan Airport

BOSTON. A fire broke out on a new, highly touted plane that had just landed at Logan Airport yesterday.

The Japan Airlines' Boeing 787 Dreamliner had just landed and all passengers and crew had deplaned. A mechanic noticed light smoke just after 10:30 a.m.

The fire was contained in a compartment with batteries and other electrical components in the cargo area.

The plane allows for the first nonstop service between Boston and Asia in Logan's history. Aviation officials billed the plane as one of the most efficient airplanes ever to be built. MICHAEL NAUGHTON

Man found shot to death in Southie

BOSTON. Police are investigating the second murder in the city so far this year after a man was found shot to death in South Boston yesterday.

The unidentified man was found outside 335 W. Second St., just before 3 a.m., police said. He was suffering from multiple gunshot wounds and later died. METRO

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In the news

▶ The Orange Line was impacted.

Commuters suffer widespread delays

BOSTON. Hundreds of Boston-area commuters endured public transit delays yesterday.

A downed wire on the Amtrak line at the Forest Hills station in Hyde Park caused dozens of trains to be delayed yesterday morning.

According to Scott Farmelant, spokesman for the Massachusetts Bay Commuter Railroad Co., the 6:37 a.m. train on the Providence/Attleboro line was delayed after a New York-bound Acela train's overhead wire fell.

A medical emergency at Back Bay station also added to the holdup, he said, adding that trains still were experiencing delays at 3 p.m.

Outbound Green Line trains also were delayed yesterday morning because of a disabled train at Boylston Station.

METRO/MR

AG fines National Grid for unpaid Sandy wages

MASSACHUSETTS. Utility company National Grid was fined by Attorney General Martha Coakley's office for failing to pay its workers on time.

The company was fined $270,000 for various violations of state wage and hour laws, Coakley's office announced yesterday. According to Coakley's office, hundreds of Massachusetts workers — including some that worked to help out neighboring states after Hurricane Sandy — still are unpaid after more than nine weeks. The power company has had issues with its payroll system that compounded problems.

METRO

Police investigating cause of W. Roxbury repair shop fires

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ Police had made no arrests as of last night.

In the 30 years Roy Azar's family has owned Nick's Parkway Auto Repair in West Roxbury, he said nothing has happened to the cars parked at his shop.

That changed Monday morning when police and fire crews were called to the gas station and auto shop on the VFW Parkway at about 12:30 a.m. and found eight cars in flames.

Firefighters put out the fires, and now the incident is under investigation by the arson squad, police said.

"To purposely do something like this is crazy," said Azar during a telephone interview from his shop Monday morning.

He wondered how or why someone would set the cars on fire because he said the area where the cars were was not visible from the roadway.

The cars did not belong to customers. Rather, the cars were ones that Azar's business had acquired and were working to repair and sell when they weren't working on a customer's car. Azar said the cars that were damaged just needed to be cleaned up and were very close to being marketed.

"We lost all of that money, work and time," he said. "Time is the most important thing."

Azar said he was "shocked" when he got the call from a police officer early this morning to let him know about the fires.

Quoted

"To purposely do something like this is crazy."
AZAR

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In the news

Obama formally nominates Hagel, Brennan

President Barack Obama on Monday nominated former Republican Senator Chuck Hagel as his next defense secretary and counterterrorism adviser John Brennan to head the CIA, potentially setting up a Senate confirmation battle on two fronts and establishing a tough tone to start his second term. Mindful of the concerns about both Hagel and Brennan on Capitol Hill, Obama spoke at length about each in a White House ceremony, then gave the microphone to outgoing Defense Secretary Leon Panetta and acting CIA Director Mike Morell to provide testimonials. **REUTERS**

Hagel

Brennan

"When it comes to national security, we don't like to leave a lot of gaps between the time that one set of leaders transitions out and another transitions in." OBAMA

News in brief

Apple tops 40 billion app downloads

Apple Inc.'s customers have downloaded more than 40 billion applications from the company's App Store, with almost half occurring last year as the use of smartphones and tablets surged. More than 2 billion apps were downloaded in December, setting a record, the company said yesterday, adding that it now has more than 775,000 apps available for its iPhone, iPad and iPod touch devices. **BLOOMBERG**

BoA, Fannie Mae reach settlement

METRO FILE PHOTO

▶ The agreement covers 44 percent of Bank of America's total pending claims for the third quarter.

Bank of America Corp. on Monday entered an $11.6 billion settlement to end Fannie Mae's claims that the bank improperly sold it mortgages that later soured, and to resolve problems with foreclosures, the companies said.

The agreement largely covers the $11.2 billion of claims that government-owned finance company Fannie Mae had against the bank, which represented about 44 percent of the bank's total pending claims at the end of the third quarter.

Bank of America, which bought Countrywide in 2008, still needs court approval for an $8.5 billion settlement with private investors and is locked in litigation with insurer MBIA Inc. over mortgage-related claims.

The settlements, other charges and a series of asset sales the bank also announced Monday will result in Bank of America posting only a small profit for 2012's fourth quarter. **REUTERS**

Why settle?

- The settlement is a major step for Bank of America toward resolving claims from investors who want the bank to buy back loans that its Countrywide Financial subsidiary sold to them during the housing boom, many of which later went bad.

Mortgage lenders pay up

A group of 10 mortgage servicers agreed on Monday to pay a total of $8.5 billion to end a U.S. government-mandated case-by-case review of housing crisis foreclosures in an acknowledgement the program had proven too cumbersome and expensive. **REUTERS**

3.8M

- Roughly 3.8 million borrowers who were foreclosed on within the time frame of the review will receive cash compensation ranging from hundreds of dollars up to $125,000, depending on the type of errors they experienced, the U.S. Office of the Comptroller of the Currency said.
- The reviews followed the "robo-signing" scandal that emerged in 2010 involving allegations banks pursued faulty foreclosures by using defective or fraudulent documents.

3.3B

- Bank of America Corp., Citigroup Inc., JPMorgan Case & Co., Wells Fargo & Co., MetLife Bank and five others will pay $3.3 billion directly to eligible borrowers and $5.2 billion in loan modifications and forgiveness, regulators said.

news in brief

Megabus, BoltBus overcome stigma

A U.S. bus-transportation boom is accelerating as travelers ditch their cars and avoid airport security lines to buy cheap tickets on motor coaches with Wi-Fi. Bus transportation was again the fastest-growing form of U.S. intercity travel last year, with scheduled departures up 7.5 percent, the most in four years, according to a DePaul University study released yesterday.

Between 1980 and 2006, the industry declined an average of 2.9 percent a year. Since then, it's grown between 5.1 percent and 9.8 percent a year.

Discount companies like Megabus and BoltBus have benefited from a U.S. safety crackdown on Chinatown competitors, increasing their departures 31 percent last year. **BLOOMBERG**

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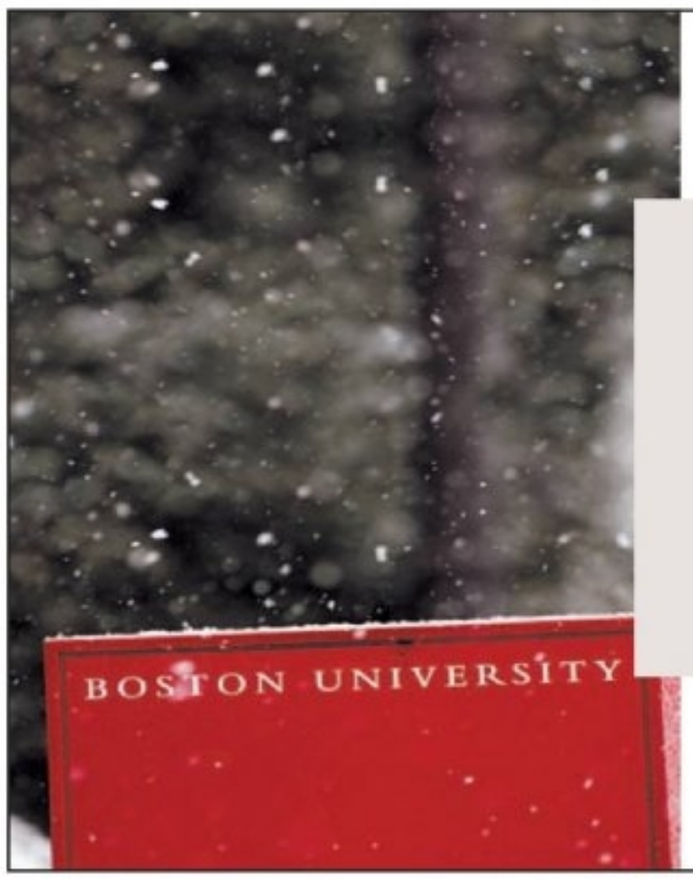

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THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

The big baby reveal: A celeb retrospective

How will we see Kim and Kanye's baby? We look at past celebrity babies for guidance One thing is sure: They scoffed at $3 million

Upon the news that **Kim Kardashian** and **Kanye West** turned down a $3 million paycheck for the pictures of their baby from an overseas tabloid, The Word thought it would be interesting to look at past celebrity baby reveals for ways they can promote Wee Lil' West.

Selling out (or not) to the highest bidder

Brad Pitt and **Angelina Jolie** are No. 1 in raking in cash from their offspring. In 2006, they got $4.1 million for pictures of their first biological daughter, **Shiloh**, and a whopping $14 million for their twins, **Knox Leon** and **Vivienne Marcheline**, in 2008. The saintly couple then donated the millions to charity.

This photo of Beyonce and Blue Ivy was published to Tumblr with this statement: "We welcome you to share in our joy. Thank you for respecting our privacy during this beautiful time in our lives."

J.Lo and **Marc Anthony** pocketed $6 million from People for pictures of their twins, **Emme Maribel Muniz** and **Maximilian "Max" David Muniz**, in 2008.

However, **Beyonce** and **Jay-Z** eschewed a big payday and instead released photos of their daughter, **Blue Ivy,** to the public via Tumblr.

Of course, Kim and Kanye could not release photos of their baby (editor's note: hahahahaha!). Some stars who haven't publicized their recent offspring include **Adele**, **Ben Affleck** and **Jennifer Garner**, and **Anna Paquin** and **Stephen Moyer**.

Talking points

Kutcher's love spans time zones

Ashton Kutcher's jet-setting relationship with **Mila Kunis** continues. After hitting up Kutcher's hometown of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in late December, the pair reportedly spent the first weekend of the new year in Rio de Janeiro, according to E! News. Kutcher and Kunis were spotted at restaurant Mr. Lam in the company of Brazilian TV host Luciano Huck and other pals. Since the former "That '70s Show" co-stars started dating last year, they've spent more time on the road than at home in L.A., with lengthy stays in New York City and Rome.

The Wanted vs. One Direction

The boys in the Wanted are looking to throw down with One Direction to finally determine which is the better boy band. The only question is how to handle the confrontation. "It'd have to be a pub brawl, wouldn't it?" Wanted member **Jay McGuiness** tells the Daily Star. "And we wouldn't be doing any of that fancy fighting. It's not like we know kung fu or anything."

Justin Bieber shows off his latest ink.

Bieber's newest ink

Justin Bieber's tattoo obsession continues, with the 18-year-old Canadian pop star debuting yet another patch of ink via his Instagram account earlier this week. The piece, a profile of a Native American chief, is the logo for the Stratford Cullitons junior ice hockey team. "My grandfather always took me to the Stratford Culliton every Friday night," Bieber posted along with the photo. "This is for [you], Grampa."

The feed ...

Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Paris Hilton is cleaning out her closets, Seth Rogen doesn't find "Homeland" completely believable, Tom Arnold doesn't want to be too inspiring and Kirstie Alley has made a new friend.

@ParisHilton
Spent the entire day going through all my closets again. My entire dining room is full of racks of clothes & boxes of handbags etc to donate

@Sethrogen
Abu Nazir's FaceTime works way better than my FaceTime ever has.

@TomArnold
The more screwed up the person the more inspirational their tweets.

@kirstiealley
What would a spider eat if he lives in an empty cabinet under the sink in a guest bath? I'd like to give him a little help..what human food?

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Redheads rocking recent red carpets

1. Bella Thorne attended the second annual American Giving Awards on Dec. 7 in Pasadena, Calif.

2. Jesse Tyler Ferguson was at a fundraiser for The Trevor Project on Dec. 2 in Los Angeles.

3. Paloma Faith posed for "VH1 Divas" 2012 on Dec. 16 in L.A.

4. Lake Bell was at the "Four Stories" premiere on Dec. 4 in California.

5. Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi watched the season finale of "The X Factor" on Dec. 19 in L.A.

6. Isla Fisher attended the "Les Mis" London premiere on Dec. 5.

7. Josephine De La Baume opened an Agent Provocateur in London last month.

8. Connie Britton was at the Audi Golden Globe 2013 kick-off party on Sunday in L.A.

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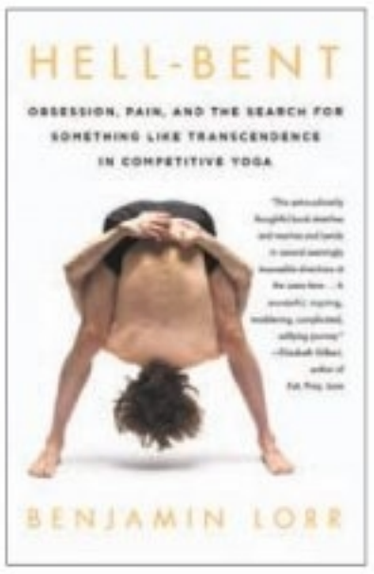
Lorr gets bent out of shape in new memoir

Skeptic-turned-believer Benjamin Lorr takes on Bikram — the man and the practice — in his rollicking new book, 'Hell-Bent: Obsession, Pain, and the Search for Something Like Transcendence in Competitive Yoga'

Benjamin Lorr's memoir on Bikram Yoga, "Hell-Bent: Obsession, Pain, and the Search for Something Like Transcendence in Competitive Yoga" is a fascinating romp through the yoga world's most bizarre (it's very, very hot) and profitable subculture. We asked him a few questions about the book and if, after everything, he still practices (he does!).



Can you give us a little background on how you started Bikram Yoga?

I walked into my first studio overweight and injured — with little or no preconceptions about Bikram or yoga — and quickly fell into a daily practice that verged on the pharmacologically addictive. ... I would go on to lose 45 pounds over the first three months, reinvent myself into someone who regularly used 'juice' as a verb, and find myself surrounded by a community of otherwise normal-to-too-thin-looking people who were basically doing the same thing. It was weird and fantastic and so I decided I wanted to write a book to try and understand it all.

What do you say to p who think that Bikram is a hippie cult?

Does anyone still think of yoga as hippie anymore? It feels so overwhelmingly mainstream these days. Bikram Yoga in particular is just about 100 percent against everything I associate with hippies. Aside from attracting exceedingly type A individuals, it features using fossil fuels to add heat and a guru obsessed with money and gangsters, decked out in enough bling to give Kanye pause. As for the cult part, well, you'll have to read the book and come to your own conclusions. Suffice to say, even though I don't think so, I can't be so dismissive of the label.

What was the craziest thing you discovered in your research and writing?

I'm not sure if this is "crazy" but watching just how well the guru, Bikram Choudhury, appeared to fit the profile of Narcissistic Personality Disorder raised my eyebrows the most. And this in a world where my eyebrows were constantly being elevated — be it from the people running out of the room to vomit, sobbing into their palms after a shattering class or telling the most amazing stories of how they used the yoga to transform their lives and heal. The guru's personality — on a throne, surrounded by acolytes, and yet, brittle, often sad, always needy — never failed to surprise me. He would say that he could withstand any amount of physical pain, but "put me in a room by myself and I will kill myself." Fascinating.

Dorothy Robinson
dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Bikram 101

How do you describe Bikram?

Bikram Yoga is a series of 26 asanas performed at 105 degree heat and has wonderful therapeutic benefits. Bikram the man is a petty controlling hatha yoga master who designed the series. He lives in Beverly Hills surrounded by expensive cars, true believers and his own ever-increasing loneliness — which is, of course, why the book is such an interesting read.

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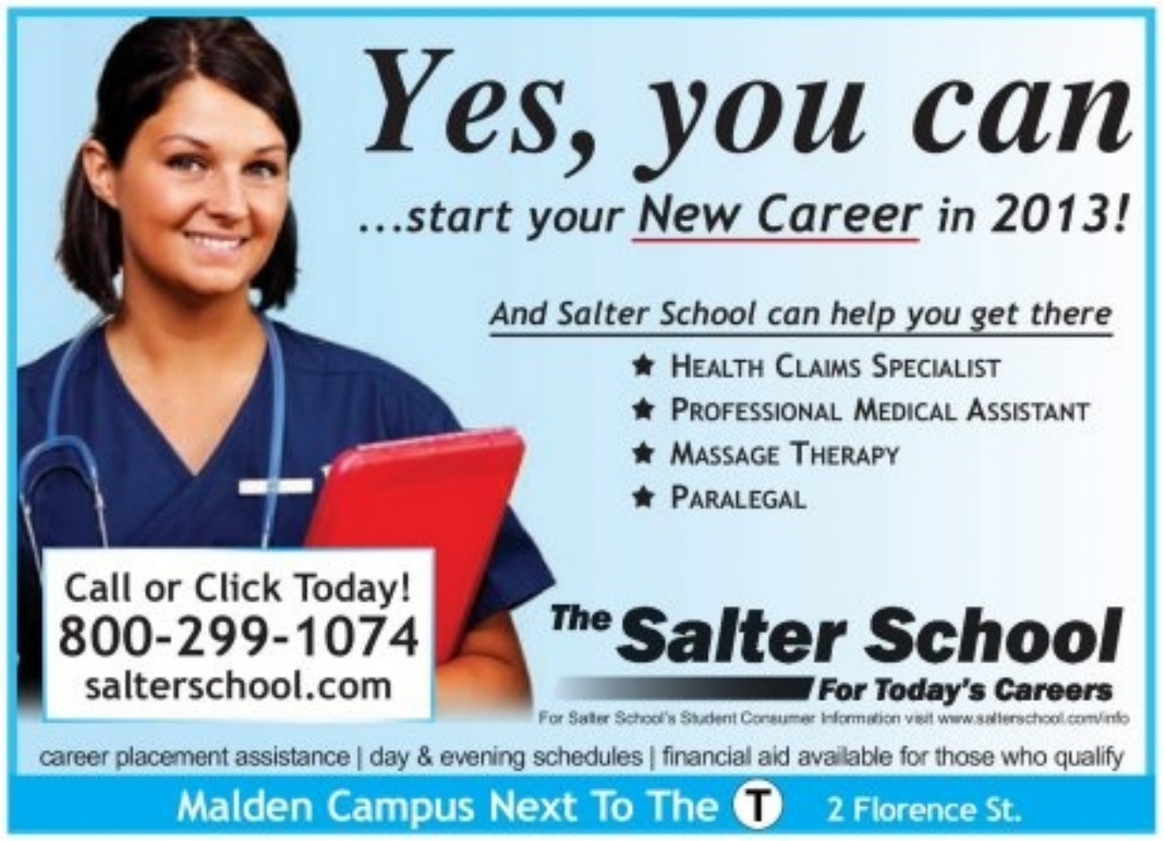
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TV watch list

'Justified'

DRAMA. When he's not getting tangled up with the local troublemakers — nice to see you again, Boyd Crowder! — Deputy U.S. Marshal Raylan Givens is living above a dive bar and moonlighting as a bounty hunter in Season 4. Read our interview with series star/executive producer Timothy Olyphant at **www.metro.us/television.** **Season premiere, 10 p.m., FX**

'Cougar Town'

COMEDY. The boozy sitcom has a new address — TBS picked the series up from ABC — but the same old cul-de-sac crew is up to its usual antics. That is to say, you can expect relatable hilarity to ensue from such things as Jules' first week of marriage to Grayson not living up to her expectations. **Season premiere, 10 p.m., TBS**

'American Experience: The Abolitionists'

DOCUMENTARY. This three-part documentary chronicles the battle to ban slavery beyond Abraham Lincoln, with historical commentators and reenactments bringing the stories of freedom fighters such as Frederick Douglass and Harriet Beecher Stowe to life. **9 p.m., PBS** ● AMBER RAY

'Our Town' is likely your kind of play

Huntington Theatre Company plays it straight, but sometimes this sort of approach is the most effective

Initially, the Huntington's incredible production of "Our Town" feels like a sweet, schmaltzy, deceptively simple look at small town life. Nothing much happens — or does it?

Director David Cromer strictly adheres to playwright Thornton Wilder's instructions to use minimal props and set. Audience members, seated as if in a crowded town hall, are forced to create their own visions of Grover's Corner, N.H. The Stage Manager presides over the audience and the town's residents as they explore the joy, sadness and mundane nature of existence.

The evolution of the town's women is what makes the experience so fascinating. With little more than a change of clothes, Mrs. Gibbs (Melinda Lopez) and Mrs. Webb (Stacy Fischer) age with eerie authenticity. Therese Plaehn delivers a gut-wrenching turn as Emily, while Marianna Bassham redefines excellence with her simple, stirring portrayal of Mrs. Soames.

With 32 actors traipsing around the small performance space, it's hard not to agree with the Stage Manager's contention that "whenever you're near the human race, there are layers and layers of nonsense."

T. CHARLES ERICKSON

▶ In "Our Town," the character played by Therese Plaehn, center, asks, "Do any human beings ever realize life while they live it?"

If you go

'Our Town'
Through Jan. 27
BCA Calderwood Pavilion
527 Tremont St., Boston
$15-$75, 617-266-0800
www.huntingtontheatre.org

But there's so much more.

Cramer's "Our Town" enables you to see the cracks in life's facade — for better or worse. Was life simpler in 1901? Were people kinder? As Emily asks, "Do any human beings ever realize life while they live it?"

Sounds heady, but it doesn't have to be. Wilder's words are breathtakingly brought to life. It's up to you what you do with them.

Nick Dussault
nick.dussault@metro.us

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Letters

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Let's adopt China's global approach

RE: "MEASURE TWICE, CUT — WELL, A LOT" (METRO, JAN. 7) The U.S. officially will spend $700 billion this year on military. If all areas of associated expenditures could be counted (space, nuclear, electronic, off-budget wars, etc.), $1 trillion could be more accurate. The U.S. easily accounts for half of the world's military expenditures while it has only 3 percent of the world's population? Such expenditures could not be accomplished without depriving its own population of standard advanced country benefits. The next highest spending country is China. It should be noted that China adequately defends its interests in the world while spending just about $100 billion.
LEWIS WALSH, VIA E-MAIL

The way to world peace is Obama — and justice

What is the best way to achieve world peace? With President Obama's inaugural ceremony right around the corner, scholars will propose what the president should do, indirectly answering the question above. As a Muslim-American, I want to first congratulate the president on his reelection and pray that he will lead the nation effectively during his second term. I think that the President has — domestically — done a good job. Among many things, he has had a congenial attitude towards Islam. Even though he has been called a Muslim, he has never portrayed Islam negatively. However, I wish the president applied the same level of fairness abroad. For example, the Guantanamo Bay Prison is still in operation. So, the question arises again — what is the best way to achieve world peace? Absolute justice.
TASEER BHATTI, VIA E-MAIL

E-mail your letters: letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Quoted

"The young of this country should be panicked at the inability of the federal government to reduce spending while, with this administration's failed economic policies, about 15 percent of the population is on food stamps."
RON FALCON, VIA E-MAIL

Death gets to go on holiday — so why not taxes?

RE: "CORPORATIONS HAVE THEIR CAKE AND EAT OURS, TOO" (METRO, JAN. 7) Bill Yuska is one smart American! When you cut through the partisan conditioning, you're left with the pure facts. Corporations lobbied the government for loopholes to hold their taxes overseas! How else do you think "GE" paid no taxes last year. Bush allowed these corporations to hold these taxes for years overseas and then issued a "tax-holiday" so they wouldn't have to fork them over to Uncle Sam. When was the last individual federal tax holiday? Never!
RICH BRITTLE, VIA E-MAIL

Horoscope

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** It's important to be astute regarding touchy situations, because if you're not you could easily allow yourself to be dominated by another.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Frivolous social pursuits should not be permitted to interfere with your more serious affairs. Put that sort at the bottom of your agenda until you complete your duties.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** When you are unable to achieve your objectives, don't look for scapegoats to blame. The fault will easily be traced back to you should you bite off more than you can chew.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** If you're given important information to relay to another, don't trust it to memory. Your recall might not be as accurate as you think.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** It's important to prevent emotion from dominating your thinking. If you don't, what you let yourself believe about a financial matter might not be in line with reality.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Do not let a reckless companion inspire you to act in a similar manner. If you should, together you might do something quite foolish and costly that you'll later regret.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Some big problems could arise if you foist onto co-workers certain jobs that you should be taking care of yourself. Strive to be industrious instead of manipulative.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Normally, you're a pretty good judge of people, yet your instincts could unexpectedly fail you. Unfortunately, you could place your trust in one who won't live up to it.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Objectives you establish for yourself are likely to be achieved. However, the targets you're striving to meet will turn out be of little consequence to you or anybody else.

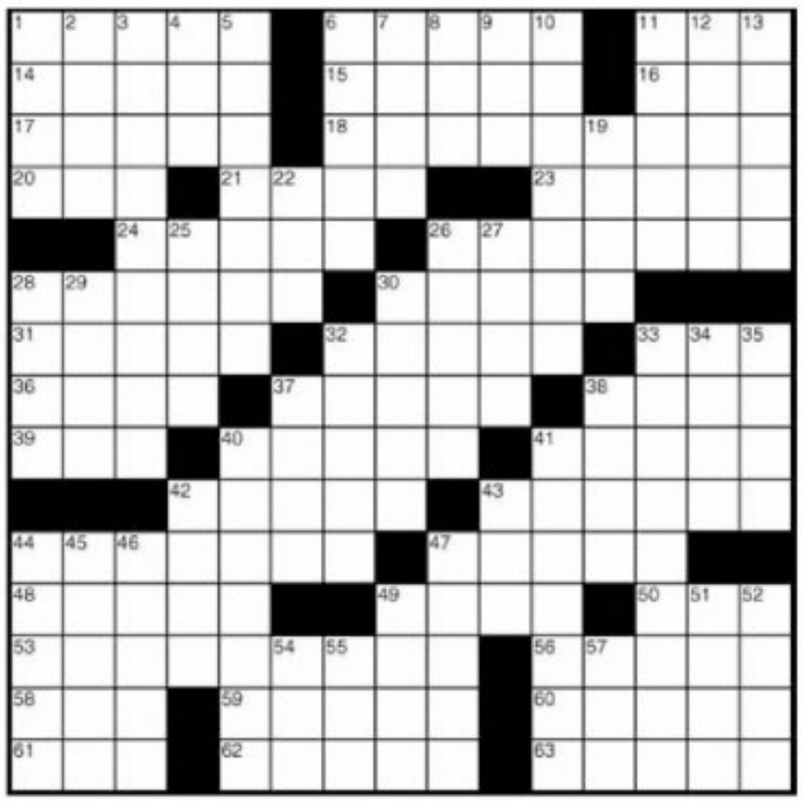
♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** You might not be as mentally sharp as you think. It's one of those days when you should avoid trying to match wits with anyone who has lots of knowledge and expertise.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Guard against inclinations to count your chickens before they hatch. Be a little optimistic — but first, let your common sense prevail.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Try not to let your indifference put you in a position where you have no input in important decisions being made about your life. Others' thinking could easily work against you.
BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Across
1 Fleece
6 Gun, in a cop show
11 Dept. head
14 Elf
15 Vast expanse
16 A Knute successor
17 Walk heavily
18 Pre-Bronze Age
20 Politico — Landon
21 Cheryl or Alan
23 Lose it (2 wds.)
24 Energy sources
26 Tasted
28 Palms off
30 Spanish dons' cummerbunds
31 Quiz-show VIP
32 Painter of ballerinas
33 — vivant
36 Roulette color
37 "Star Wars" heavy
38 Brownish-purple
39 Slime
40 Subway patron
41 Nasty shocks
42 Fragrant perennial
43 Conversation starters
44 Yellow fruits
47 Chopped down
48 Like a good sentry
49 Batman creator
50 "Grand — Opry"
53 Cheered up (2 wds.)
56 Basked
58 Anderson Cooper's channel
59 Intern
60 Make corrections
61 "— Jude"
62 Cut drastically
63 Grubby

Down
1 Pet lovers' gp.
2 Knoll
3 Type of board member (2 wds.)
4 Intention
5 Well-stocked
6 Swimming holes
7 Treated a sprain
8 Want-ad letters
9 Baseball's — Ripken
10 Riddles
11 Taj —
12 Bellyache
13 Hurried
19 T's and tubes
22 Unser and Gore
25 Software buyer
26 More judicious
27 Cracked
28 — shui
29 Melville title
30 UPS competitor
32 Lower wall panels
33 Shovel successor
34 Eight, to Caesar
35 Gangbuster Eliot —
37 "Home Again" host Bob
38 End of the Earth
40 Beats
41 Richly adorned
42 Place for picnics
43 Farm flapper
44 Quilting square
45 By oneself
46 Many-petaled blossom
47 Door in a plane
49 Mr. Kristofferson
51 Gave temporarily
52 Dust devil
54 Scaleless fish
55 Oklahoma town
57 Left Bank pal



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		7		2		4		
		5			7			
			8	5				1
	5	8		9		6	3	
2				3	6			
			2			5		
		4		8		9		
	1	2		7	5			8

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

	2		3			4		
				9	4		3	2
			2			9	8	
						3	4	
5	4	2				7	6	8
	7	1						
	1	6			3			
4	5		8	2				
		3			6		9	

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Solution to yesterday's crossword

C	E	L	L		H	A	L	L			R	A	H	
A	B	I	E		O	L	I	O	S		B	A	L	E
G	R	A	N		C	I	N	C	O		E	T	O	N
Y	O	R	I	C	K		T	A	B	L	E	A	U	S
			N	O	S	Y		L	E	A	F			
N	F	C		A	H	O	Y		R	O	I	L	E	D
O	R	O		T	O	G	A	S		S	N	A	R	E
R	U	B	S		P	I	C	T	S		G	M	E	N
M	I	R	T	H		S	H	E	A	F		A	C	T
S	T	A	Y	E	D		T	A	L	L		S	T	S
			L	A	I	D		M	U	O	N			
R	E	M	I	T	T	A	L		T	W	E	E	Z	E
Y	E	A	S		T	R	E	V	I		P	R	E	P
A	N	K	H		O	N	I	O	N		A	G	U	E
N	Y	E			S	A	N	G			L	O	S	E

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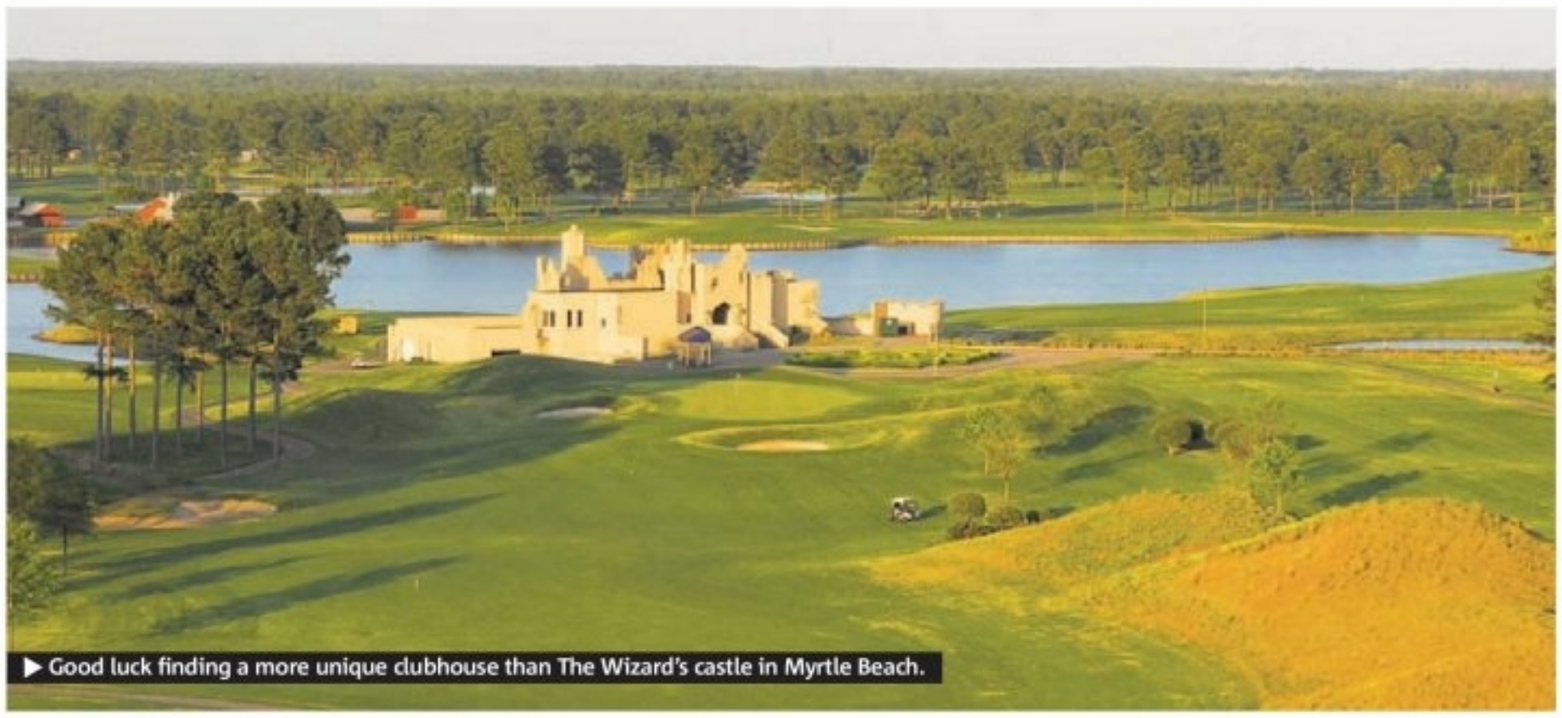
destinations

Golf in Myrtle Beach, with a Mystical touch

Getting there

The Witch, Man-O-War and The Wizard are in the heart of Myrtle Beach and within 15 minutes of Myrtle Beach International Airport, beaches, accommodations, restaurants and other attractions. A short distance from I-95 and other major thoroughfares, Mystical Golf courses are easily accessible. More than two dozen cities — including Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, New York and Washington — offer direct flights.

Philip Irons
letters@metro.us



▶ Good luck finding a more unique clubhouse than The Wizard's castle in Myrtle Beach.

◗ Easy access and scores of good courses mean Myrtle Beach remains a haven for golfers looking to escape Northeast winter ◗ Packages abound, particularly for the Mystical trio: The Witch, Man-O-War and The Wizard ◗ When it comes to value for your vacation dollar, it's hard to beat the Grand Strand

After a recent visit, Mystical Golf's trifecta of Myrtle Beach courses — The Witch, Man-O-War and The Wizard — now holds the pole position on my golf vacation radar. Why? The three Dan Maples' designs are flat-out superb, the maintenance is country club-good and the price is off-the-charts reasonable — especially the stay-and-play packages.

Though Man-O-War and The Wizard are adjacent and The Witch is 10 minutes away, each course is a golf universe unto itself.

The Witch is Myrtle Beach golf at its finest with many tricks up her devious sleeve as 500 acres of tranquil cypress groves and wetlands provide plenty of hazards due to Mother Nature. Strategy is rewarded as the par-71, 6,702-yard layout is an SAT test of the ancient game.

Muscular Man-O-War is soothed by a 100-acre lake on its edge. This is a study in water management as H2O touches every hole The par-72, 6,967-yard Man-O-War intrigues with its spectacular (and rare) back-to-back island greens on 13 and 14.

The Wizard is as Scottish as haggis with bumps, hollows, mounds, swales and sod-faced bunkers. The welcoming old-world, castle clubhouse is the most unique 19th hole you'll find.

Myrtle Beach is also second to none when it comes to post-round fun, with dining locales for every palate and pocketbook. Don't miss Greg Norman's Australian Grille, a popular fine-dining spot at Barefoot Landing. On the southern end of the Grand Strand, the Murrells Inlet Marsh Walk — a half-mile stretch of seven fun dining and entertainment establishments located on the picturesque Murrells Inlet waterfront — is another "must."

Where to

Play:
Mystical Golf: 843-282-2977,
www.mysticalgolf.com

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▶ The island green at Man-O-War.

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In the news

Rondo earns another suspension

The NBA announced just three hours prior to the Celtics showdown with the Knicks at Madison Square Garden yesterday that point guard Rajon Rondo would be suspended one game for "making contact with a game official" during Saturday's 89-81 win over the Hawks in Atlanta.

After being called for an offensive foul with 3:19 left in the third quarter, Rondo lightly bumped referee Rodney Mott's left shoulder with his chest while disputing the call. The Celtics point guard had an incident, also in Atlanta, in last year's playoffs when he bumped referee Marc Davis. He was suspended one game.

METRO/MB

Muddled numbers

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Bill Belichick doesn't mind seeing teams twice a year ... in the regular season.

Familiarity a good thing for Pats?
No clear answer in Belichick era

The train of thought with the Patriots in the Bill Belichick era has been that the more times the coach sees an opponent in a season, the better.

In divisional play, where the Patriots see each of their AFC East opponents twice a year, the team is a highly impressive 61-21 under Belichick. They have gone a perfect 6-0 against AFC East opponents twice during the Hoodie Regime: in 2007 and in this past regular season. Familiarity breeds victory, it seems. Of course, this was not the case in 2010 as the Jets upset the Patriots, 28-21, in the two teams' third meeting of the season. But in hindsight, maybe onlookers shouldn't have been that stunned.

The Jets split the season series with New England that year, earning a 28-14 win in New Jersey in Week 2. In that game, the Jets tricked Tom Brady into throwing a pair of interceptions and No. 12 finished with a stat line of 20-for-36, 248 yards and two touchdowns. By Brady standards, that's a pretty mediocre afternoon.

No, the Texans haven't set such a precedent in fooling Brady and there is little evidence to suggest that Houston will come to Foxboro and take down the rested Patriots this Sunday. Under Gary Kubiak, who has been at the Texans helm since 2006, Houston is just 19-23 in division play.

If there is one "familiarity" stat the Texans can hang their hat on it is this, however — in every playoff loss in the Belichick era, the Patriots have lost to a team they saw in the regular season.

Matt Burke
matthew.burke@metro.us

3

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GETTY IMAGES

▶ Many Bruins skated at Boston University yesterday.

Who are these Bruins, again?

◗ Chara, Boychuk, Ference bring stability to Bruins' defense ◗ Newcomer Aaron Johnson remains mystery

Over the next few days, Metro will break down the players that should be on the Bruins' roster when they open the 2013 regular season (probably Jan. 19 vs. Montreal). Today we take a look at the defensemen. Boston typically dresses six defensemen for every game (three pairings).

▶ Johnny Boychuk
2011-12: 5 goals, 10 assists, plus-27, 53 penalty minutes, 171 shots on goal
A physical presence and one of Boston's only right-handed shots from the blue line, Boychuk had a career year last season. His checks are always a highlight of any Bruins game.

▶ Zdeno Chara
2011-12: 12 goals, 40 assists, plus-33, 87 penalty minutes, 224 shots on goal
The Bruins' captain is still the leader of the team and one of the best defensemen in the NHL. He also possesses the hardest slap shot in the league and he is as tough as they come. Oh, and he's 6-foot-9 — making him a physical force that we'll probably never see again for the B's.

▶ Andrew Ference
2011-12: 6 goals, 18 assists, plus-9, 46 penalty minutes, 107 shots on goal
Once regarded as injury prone and unreliable, Ference has turned out to be not only the Bruins' most interesting player (he was their player rep and rides a bike to the Garden), but also a solid performer. His Twitter feed is a must-follow for Bruins fans.

▶ Aaron Johnson
2011-12 (in Columbus): 3 goals, 13 assists, minus-12, 26 penalty minutes, 63 shots on goal
This mystery man on Boston's roster was signed right before the lockout. It's tough to judge him on his numbers with the Blue Jackets since they are the worst team in the NHL.

▶ Adam McQuaid
2011-12: 2 goals, 8 assists, plus-16, 99 penalty minutes, 63 shots on goal
The wild card in terms of insanity on Boston's blue line, McQuaid has suffered some nasty injuries (concussions) the last few seasons but when he plays, he brings an intimidation factor to the B's. He is their best fighter, even more so than Chara since he drops the gloves more often.

▶ Dennis Seidenberg
2011-12: 5 goals, 18 assists, plus-15, 39 penalty minutes, 174 shots on goal
Another Bruins defensemen that is really tough and fundamentally sound. When he gets put with Chara, mostly in the postseason, they lock down opposing team's top lines. Plus he's German, and every team needs a hulking German.

Rich Slate
sports@metro.us

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THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
Project File No. 603514

A Design Public Hearing will be held by MassDOT to discuss the proposed Bridge Replacement, L-08-014, Whitney Street Over the Monoosnoc Brook project in Leominster, MA.

WHERE: **Meeting Room**
Leominster Public Library
30 West Street, Leominster, MA 01453
WHEN: **January 22, 2012, @ 7:00 pm**

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Bridge Replacement, L-08-014, Whitney Street over the Monoosnoc Brook project. All views and comments made at the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The proposed project consists of replacing the existing structure with a single span superstructure with a span length of approximately 73 feet. The proposed bridge shall have a curb-curb width of 32 feet and two 6.5 foot sidewalks. Bicycle accommodations consisting of usable shoulders have been provided in accordance with applicable design guides.

A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The city of Leominster, Massachusetts is responsible for acquiring all needed rights in private or public lands. MassDOT's policy concerning land acquisitions will be discussed at this hearing.

Written views received by MassDOT subsequent to the date of this notice and up to five (5) days prior to the date of the hearing shall be displayed for public inspection and copying at the time and date listed above. Plans will be on display one-half hour before the hearing begins, with an engineer in attendance to answer questions regarding this project. A project handout will be made available on the MassDOT website listed below.

Written statements and other exhibits in place of, or in addition to, oral statements made at the Public Hearing regarding the proposed undertaking are to be submitted to Thomas F. Broderick, P.E., Chief Engineer, MassDOT, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention.: Project Management, Project File No. 603514. Such submissions will also be accepted at the hearing. Mailed statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the public hearing transcript must be postmarked within ten (10) business days of this Public Hearing. Project inquiries may be emailed to **dot.feedback.highway@state.ma.us**

This location is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (including but not limited to interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, open or closed captioning for videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats, such as audio tapes, Braille and large print), as available. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT's Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer by phone (857-368-8580), fax (857-368-0602), TTD/TTY (857-368-0603) or by email **(MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us)**. Requests should be made as soon as possible prior to the meeting, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten (10) business days before the meeting.

In case of inclement weather, hearing cancellation announcements will be posted on the internet at
http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/Highway/

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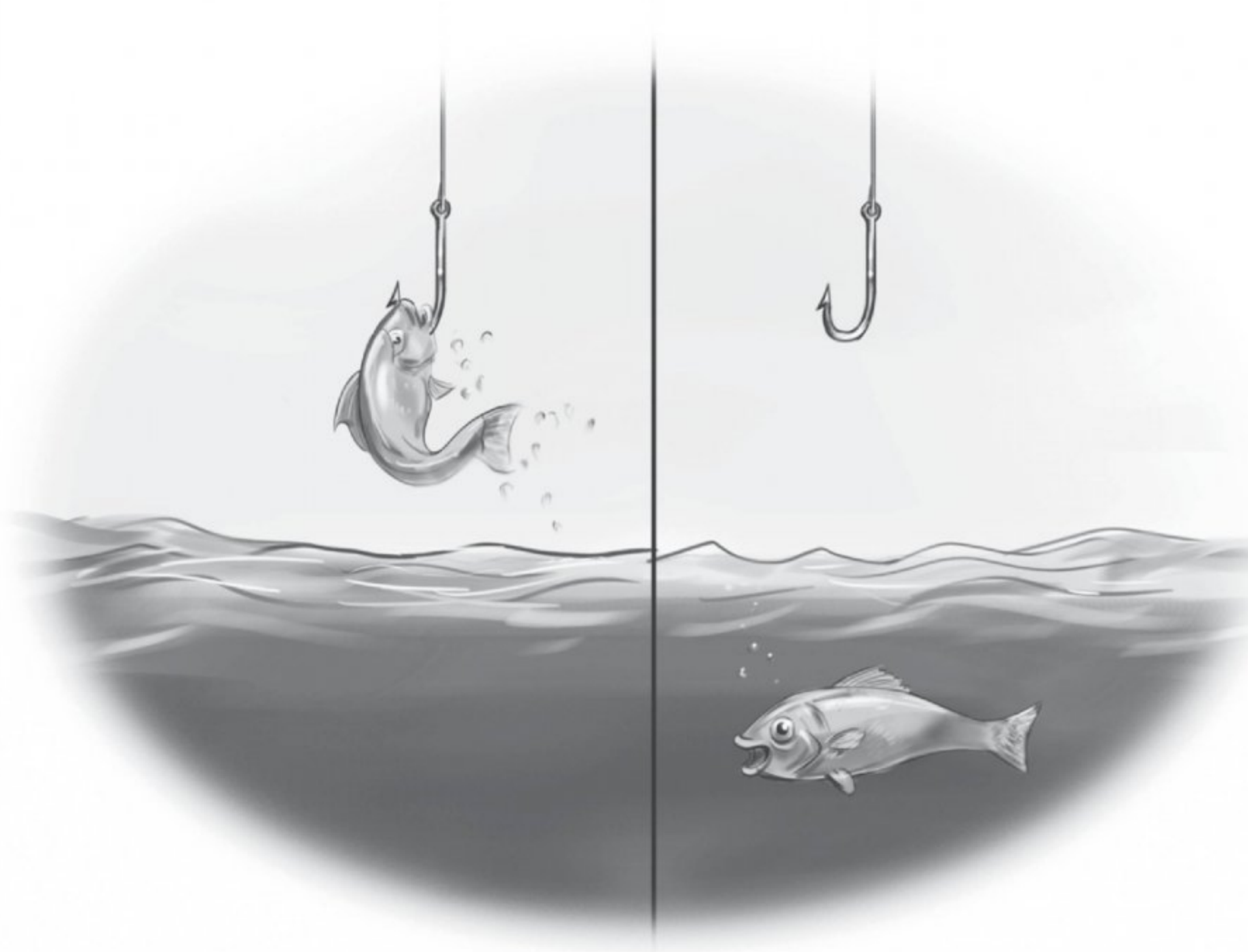
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR

THOMAS F. BRODERICK, P.E.
CHIEF ENGINEER



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